

(d) the findings thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) :

(a) No report has been received from the Government of Orissa about any starvation death in the State.

(b) to (d) Government of India have requested the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to enquire into the reports of starvation deaths in the State. The Commission has not yet submitted its report in the matter.

Offtake of Foodgrains

4891. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY:
SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether in most of the States the offtake of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System in recent months has been far below the allocation;

(b) if so, the names of the States which have lagged behind in the offtake of the allocated foodgrains stating the quantity thereof lifted by each State as against the allocation;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) :

(a) and (b) In most of the States, the percentage of offtake as compared to allotment during January-March, 1997, has been more than 50%. Only in some States, the offtake of wheat and rice has been below 50%.

The details of these States are given as under :
(Fig. in '000 tonnes)

State	Allotment	Offtake	%
1	2	3	4
Rice			
Bihar	100.50	15.90	15.82
Madhya Pradesh	195.00	83.90	43.03
Punjab	4.50	0.40	8.89
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.50	0.10	6.67
Daman & Diu	1.80	0.50	27.78

1	2	3	4
Wheat			
J & K	90.00	36.00	40.00
Sikkim	1.80	0.80	44.44
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.75	0.00	0.00

(c) and (d) Allotments from Central Pool are only supplementary to open market availability, and are managed out of the stocks in the Central Pool which from only 15-20% of the total quantity of foodgrains procured in the country. As such, offtake of foodgrains (wheat and rice) under PDS depends mainly upon the seasonal availability of these commodities in the open market in any State. During the procurement season of wheat and rice, offtake of these commodities generally falls in the States where these commodities are produced. Sometimes, due to some operational problems, there might be shortage of stocks in a particular State and whenever any report to this effect is received either from State or elsewhere, immediate action is taken by the Government to make available the stocks at the required place. Also, whenever any request from the State Government for extension of validity period for lifting the unlifted quantity of PDS foodgrains is received, it is generally considered favourably.

[Translation]

Pollution from International Hotels

4892. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved the proposal for setting up of any authority to ascertain the seriousness of pollution caused due to International Hotel in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this authority has since been set up and submitted its report to the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) In compliance with Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated September 13, 1996 the Central Government has constituted the Environmental Impact Assessment Authority for National Capital Region under Section 3 (3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 vide Gazette Notification dated October 9, 1996. The composition of the authority is below:

- Justice R.K. Shukla,
Retd. Judge of Allahabad High Court.

Chairman

- | | |
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| 2. Chairman,
Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi. | Member |
| 3. The Chief Regional Planner,
National Capital Region Planning Board,
New Delhi | Member |
| 4. The Secretary to the Government of
National Capital Territory of Delhi,
Department of Environment, Delhi. | Member |
| 5. The Secretary of the Government of
Uttar Pradesh, Department of Environment,
Lucknow. | Member |
| 6. The Secretary to the Government
of Rajasthan, Department of Environment,
Jaipur. | Member |
| 7. The Secretary to the Government of
Haryana, Department of Environment,
Chandigarh. | Member |
| 8. Shri P.M. Ansari
Senior Environmental Engineer,
Central Pollution Control Board,
Delhi. | Member-Secretary |

The Authority is to exercise the following powers and perform the following functions, namely:

(i) powers under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for issuing directions and for taking measures with respect to matters referred to in clauses (i), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (viii), (ix), (x) and (xii) of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the said Act;

(ii) survey of the whole area comprising of 315 hectares situated in South Delhi proposed for international Hotels Complex from the point of view of environment protection and to carry out the environmental impact assessment of the area;

(iii) deal with the environment protection issues arising out of the project pertaining to the International Hotels Complex or any other project which the Delhi Development Authority or any other Authority may initiate in future;

(iv) lay down the procedure for actions to be taken under (i) to (iii) above;

(v) comply with the order issued by any of the High Courts having jurisdiction in the National Capital Region and the Supreme Court from time to time;

(vi) deal with any other relevant environment issues pertaining to the National Capital Region, including those which may be referred to it by the Central Government in the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

The Authority has the Jurisdiction over the National Capital Region as defined in clause (f) of Section 2 of the

National Capital Region Planning Board Act, 1985 (2 of 1985).

The Authority is required to furnish a progress report about its activities atleast once in two months to the Central Government in the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

The Authority has its Headquarters in the National Capital Territory, Delhi.

The terms and conditions of appointment of the Chairman and Members are as determined by the Central Government from time to time.

(c) and (d) The Authority has so far submitted two bi-monthly progress reports to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India. The Authority has inspected the International Hotel Complex site and construction activities which were in progress in violation of Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated September 13, 1996 have been stopped. The Authority has asked the Delhi Development Authority to furnish details of the project alongwith Environmental Impact Assessment report.

The Authority has also invited comments on the project proposal submitted by Delhi Development Authority from Non Government Organisations and affected persons of the area for taking necessary decision regarding environmental clearance of the project.

[English]

CRPF Firing Range

4893. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish a CRPF firing range near Bannerghatta National Park near Bangalore in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether it will not affect the animals in the park; and

(c) whether the Government are considering to shift the said fire range at some other place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. CRPF Firing Range at Taralu Village at Uttarahalli near Bangalore has already been established and functioning since August, 1995.

(b) As the site of the firing range is surrounded by Hillocks and slopes and is at a distance about 6 Kms. from Bannerghatta National Park, there will be not effect on the animals in the Park.

(c) This question does not arise in view of (b) above.